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Joint Coop. Agreements

JPRS-TDD-90-021
21 May 1990

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LATIN AMERICA

the apprehension of the person to whom the parcel was addressed in Barbados - Marcus Trotman, son of Rufus Trotman.

He acknowledged that some public officers here had complained to him that the investigating team's report was unfair to them and made them look stupid.

As a result, he added, government had decided that within the context of the General Orders which govern the Civil Service those officers would be permitted to make public their views and their comments on the incident, which had been omitted from the report, would be published in due course.

The investigating team headed by attorney-at-law and former High Commissioner to London, Algy Symmonds, said it had no evidence to conclude that Rufus Trotman had placed the package in the diplomatic bag knowing of its contents—the evidence of his placing it there being based upon his alleged admission to the ambassador and counsellor (not in writing).

"Through his attorney-at-law as well as in his alleged oral statements to the ambassador and counsellor," the report said, "he has consistently denied knowledge of any illegal substance being in the package."

The team said there was no evidence to suggest that there was previous use of the bag from Caracas for similar illegal purposes "but we are equally unable to say that this was not so."

There is clear evidence, the team said, of at least one unscheduled package addressed to Marcus Trotman having been received within a few months previous to the offending one, "but we cannot say whether or not it was 'clean'."

Evidence revealed that Rufus Trotman, though a mid-level functionary at the embassy, had come to be regarded since his appointment at the opening of the embassy in 1974 as being the "most important person" or "El Todo" there after the ambassador.

He was well known among other Caribbean missions and some international organisations, and possessed an enviable knowledge of Caracas and its customs.

It was revealed that Trotman had taken the untied bag prepared by a typist from a table and said he would tie it in his room, an action the typist said she found "strange".

The team said it found it difficult to comprehend why the Diplomatic Bag from Caracas was allowed for so long to be secured with twine without the use of lead seals as was the practice at other Missions and at the Ministry.

It complained of the reported callousness with which LIAT, the island-hopping regional air carrier, treats Barbados' diplomat bags to and from Caracas, saying this necessitates the Ministry of Foreign Affairs holding

discussions with LIAT on the matter without delay, if the opportunity for a scandal is to be eliminated.

It said investigations revealed the "dire need" in the ministry for the facility to enable the urgent transmitting to foreign missions of information of a very sensitive nature and recommended that the ministry develop a secret cipher for its use with missions abroad in appropriate circumstances.

It also recommended the setting up of a training programme for internal and overseas staff of the ministry in aspects of personnel, document and physical security in order to sensitise its employees to a broad notion of security.

In addition, it recommended that immediate steps be taken to improve the security of the Caracas Embassy after being informed that the keys for the locks to the mission's internal doors were those handed over in the lease.

"The insecurity inherent in that situation is worsened by the fact that the building is otherwise insecure," the report said.

"Its perimeter is not adequately lit at night. there is no guard dog, no security guard, no intruder alarm system and obviously little security consciousness where it should abound." (CANA)

BELIZE

Belize, Mexico Sign Antidrug Agreement

5340054A Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES
in English 18 Feb 90 p 3

[Text] The Attorney General of Belize, the Hon. Glenn Godfrey, and his counterpart of the Republic of Mexico, Lic. Enrique Alvarez del Castillo, on Friday, February 9, signed an agreement of cooperation in Belmopan against drug trafficking.

The objectives of the agreement to combat illicit drugs are: prevention and reduction of demand; control of sale; suppression of illicit trafficking; and treatment and rehabilitation.

The agreement was inspired by the United Nations Convention Against the Illegal Trafficking of Narcotics and Drug Substances adopted in Vienna, Austria, on December 20, 1988.

Consisting of eleven articles, the agreement covers the scope, area of cooperation, mechanism for cooperation, and main functions of a commission.

The Commission

The two Governments have agreed to establish a Belize-Mexico Commission for Cooperation. It will be composed of coordinating authorities of both countries with consultative and operational functions.

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The Belize side will be coordinated by the Ministry of Home Affairs; Mexico by their Ministry of Foreign Relations and the Attorney General of the Republic. The Commission is authorized to seek professional and technical advice from both the public and private sectors in each country.

The main functions of the Commission are:

- 1) formulation by agreement of Coordinating Authorities;
- 2) to recommend to Governments the most efficient manner in which cooperation can be offered to give full effect to the obligations adopted by the Agreement;
- 3) recommendations of the Commission will require Government approval and will be formalized through diplomatic channels in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding, each of which will be considered an annex to the present agreement; and,
- 4) complimentary functions to include assistance in extradition, mutual assistance in legal matters, and the execution of penal sentences.

The Commission will meet every four months alternately in Belize and Mexico. It will submit an annual report to both Governments who will evaluate the work of the Commission and the Agreement.

Scope of Agreement

The Agreement seeks to achieve greater efficiency in the control of drug trafficking and consumption; adoption of legal and administrative measures in accordance with respective constitutions and laws; and respect the principles of self-determination, non-intervention in internal affairs, judicial equality and respect for territorial integrity and sovereign status.

Area of Cooperation

Subject to each country's human and material resources, each Government will endeavour to initiate programmes to:

- a) reduce demand through preventive measures, treatment and public awareness;
- b) eradicate illegal cultivation and where possible establish substitute legal crops;
- c) establish activities related to preventing drug trafficking and drug consumption;
- d) identify and destroy laboratories and other installations where drugs are illegally produced;
- e) regulate and control substances used in drug production;
- f) establish systems for information exchange;

g) strengthen human, financial and material resources engaged in control of drugs, taking budgetary restraints into consideration; and

h) develop new legal measures to assist in more efficient control.

The Agreement may be terminated at any time, 90 days after notification through diplomatic channels. It can be amended and modified by mutual agreement.

The Agreement comes into effect on the date it is ratified in accordance with respective requirements and constitutional procedures under the respective laws of the two countries.

This new agreement is yet another step in our Government's effort to combat drug trafficking.

BERMUDA

New Antidrug High Technology Equipment Bought

53400055A Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE
in English 24 Feb 90 p 4

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] She [Government backbencher Mrs. Grace Bell] also said the day was coming when Bermuda would become the Colombia where "life is cheap", thanks to drugs. Dr. Saul announced the Customs service was going high-tech in its drugs war with the purchase of \$23,000 fibrescope—an electronic optical device which lets officers peer into tiny cracks and possible hiding spots in luggage—and a \$220,000 mobile X-ray van.

BRAZIL

Proposed Bill To Seize Traffickers' Assets

90WD0269A Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO
in Portuguese 4 Apr 90 p 14

[Article by Fausto Macedo]

[Text] Persuaded that the simple traditional punishment—deprivation of liberty—does not in the end bring down the powerful drug traffickers operating in this country, the former president of the Federal Narcotics Council (CONFEN), Ronaldo Augusto Bretas Marzagao, has drafted a proposal which in his view "will reach into the pockets of these people." He proposes confiscation of all of the drug traffickers' assets, including automobiles, homes, boats, airplanes, and money. This proposal was endorsed by the former minister of justice, Saulo Ramos, who then sent it to the president of the Republic. The Congress is scheduled to study the text drafted by this expert soon.

"The idea is to prevent drug traffickers from enjoying the profits they have acquired by dealing in drugs," Marzagao explains. "All assets obtained from this

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